

**SMU**

COX SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Executive MBA Program

August 8, 2006

The Honorable Maria Cino
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Docket 2006-25275-498

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am writing to express my strong support for the application by American Airlines to initiate nonstop service between Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport (DFW) and Beijing, China, effective March 25, 2007. If approved, American's application would create a new U.S. gateway to China and thereby maximizing the public benefits that would result compared to the competing service proposals before the agency. In fact, American's new service would provide the only nonstop link to China from a gateway in the Southwest region of the United States, bringing important competition to existing U.S. carrier gateways to China, which are currently restricted to Newark, Chicago, and San Francisco. As a result, consumers from throughout the South and Southwest will greatly benefit from this new connecting gateway to China and the increased flight options and airline competition it will generate.

In addition, this new gateway will benefit both the North Texas region and the communities linked to DFW by stimulating job growth, promoting new and existing businesses, and increasing U.S.-China cultural ties and tourism opportunities. At DFW, American operates one of the largest connecting hubs in the world, with almost 800 daily nonstop flights serving over 150 cities throughout the United States. Given this extensive geographical reach of consumer benefits, including to air travelers and businesses in our community, I urge the Department to grant American's application for the DFW-Beijing route. Thank you for your consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,

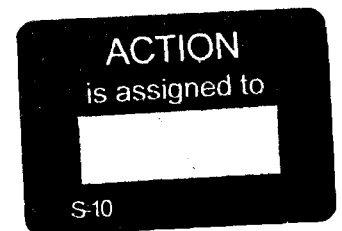
Tom Perkowski
Director, Executive MBA Program
Executive MBA

Southern Methodist University

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Sincerely,

Michael Caplan
Director of Student Graduate Services
SMU Cox School of Business

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Sincerely,

Jenny Darley
Assistant Director of MBA Career Management Center
SMU Cox School of Business

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Dennis F. Grindle
Director of MBA Career Management Center
SMU Cox School of Business

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Sincerely,

Ellen Lee
Associate Director
Executive MBA Program
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Dee Powell
Assistant to the Dean
SMU Cox School of Business

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